29th January 1936]

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" If there is a demand, they will be stocked in the Anantapur depot also and if my hon. Friend would inform the Deputy Director, he will do so."

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—" May I know, Sir, whether it is not the bounden duty of the Deputy Director to do propaganda work saying that these special seeds, for instance, korra, which will stand the weather conditions of Bellary, are available?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—" Of course, it is the business of the department to tell people that improved strains are available and ask them to use them."

Fisheries

Re-employment of the Sub-Inspectors of the Fisheries department discharged from service.

* 571 *Q.*—Mr. M. S. Sreshta: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many Sub-Inspectors were discharged from the Fisheries department in December 1934, owing to the reorganization scheme;

(*b*) how many of them have been re-employed, and on what pay;

(*c*) in the ordinary course when are those who have not been re-employed likely to be re-employed;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the Government had passed orders on their first memorial that they would be re-employed in the Match and Sugar department;

(*e*) if so, why they have not been so re-employed;

(*f*) how many outsiders were recruited as Sub-Inspectors to the Excise department since December 1934;

(*g*) why the Government did not make provision in the Excise department for the discharged men and why they did not retransfer the senior Sub-Inspectors who came from the Excise and make place for the discharged men who have had several years of service;

(*h*) if the Service Rules do not permit such a transfer, whether the Government have taken steps to modify the rules;

(*i*) if not, why not;

(*j*) whether the Fisheries Sub-Inspectors are not considered suitable for appointment as Excise Sub-Inspectors;

(*k*) if so, why they are considered unsuitable;

(*l*) whether the Commissioner or any other appointing authority saw them and found them unfit;

(*m*) if so, on what grounds they were found unfit; and

(*n*) whether the Government have taken steps to see that these discharged men are immediately re-employed in some suitable posts?

A.—(*a*) Fourteen permanent and five acting Sub-Inspectors.

(*b*) Of the permanent men 10 have been provided for in temporary posts and 4 in short leave vacancies as and when they occur. The question of fixing their pay is under consideration.

(c) It is not possible to say.

(d) Yes. They were informed that those of them found suitable by the Commissioner of Excise would be employed in the temporary posts of Petty Officers sanctioned in connexion with the administration of the Sugar and Matches (Excise Duty) Acts, as soon as special rules to regulate the recruitment to the posts had been framed.

(e) The framing of the rules depends on the treatment of the staff as the staff of the Central Government or of the Local Government. The employment of the staff could not however wait till this was decided and all the temporary posts were in the meanwhile filled by the staff of the Excise department.

The Madras Excise Subordinate Service Rules have recently been amended to provide for the employment of these men in the temporary posts of Sub-Inspectors and petty officers sanctioned for the performance of work connected with the administration of the Sugar and Match (Excise Duty) Act, 1934.

(f) 37.

(g), (h) & (i) The Madras Excise Subordinate Service Rules do not provide for the transfer to the service of men from other services excepting members of the Madras Ministerial Service employed in the Excise department. However, the question of amending these rules to admit at least of the retransfer of those who came originally from the combined Salt and Abkari department is now under consideration.

(j) They are not considered suitable by the Commissioner of Excise.

(k) The Commissioner of Excise states that they have been out of touch with Excise work.

(l) & (m) The Sub-Inspectors were not interviewed by any authority. As they have been in charge of fish-curing yards, it can easily be understood that they are only fit for sedentary work.

(n) If it is possible to retransfer the Sub-Inspectors who came originally from the Combined Salt and Excise department to the Excise department, some of the retrenched men may be employed in their places. The rest will be employed as vacancies arise.

Mr. M. S. Sreshta :—" In the answer to clauses (l) and (m), it is stated that as Sub-Inspectors were employed in the Fisheries Department, they are not fit for any work but sedentary work. But in the answer to (g), (h) and (i), it is stated that clerks of the Excise Department may be transferred as Sub-Inspectors of the department. May I know why it is thought that the Fisheries Inspectors are not fit for transfer as Excise Inspectors, whereas clerks are found fit for the discharge of such task? "

29th January 1936]

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"Probably the clerks are in touch with the work in the Excise Department and the men employed in fisheries work are not."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"May I know whether in the last two or three years, no other direct recruitment to the Excise Subordinate Service had been made?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"I believe it has been made but I am afraid I cannot give the information as I am not in charge of the department."

Mr. V. T. Arasu:—"When raw men can be found suitable for work as Excise sub-inspectors, may I know why Government seem to think that the Fisheries Sub-Inspectors are not fit to do such work?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"There are rules governing recruitment to the Excise Department, and naturally they have been following those rules."

Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—"I find the Hon. Minister has dealt with this matter generously. May I ask the Hon. Minister whether he would extend his generosity by saying that these Fisheries Sub-Inspectors may be interviewed, so that it might be found out whether they are fit or unfit for appointment as Excise Sub-Inspectors?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"By whom?"

Mr. M. S. Sreshta:—"By the Madras Services Commission."

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"I am afraid, it may not be possible to ask the Madras Services Commission. If at any time they apply, the hon. Member's suggestion would be considered as regards the action to be taken by the Commissioner of Excise."

Mr. T. S. Ramaswami Ayyar:—"Do the Government think that once people are appointed to the Fisheries Department, they are afterwards incapable of doing any other work?"

The Hon. Mr. P. T. Rajan:—"As I said, each service has got its own rules; and it is left to the heads of departments to see whether the men they recruit are suitable for the post."

Weights and Measures

Standardization of weights and measures.

*572 Q.—Mr. C. Basu Dev: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the desirability of effecting uniformity in weights and measures in the province;

(*b*) whether the Government have received any suggestions from their officers for effecting such uniformity;